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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial Number: 10/768,996

Filing Date: January 30, 2004

Art Unit: 1632

Title: Novel oligonucleotides and related compounds

First named inventor: Suresh C. Srivastava

Confirmation No.: 4523

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT REQUESTING ENTRY OF SUBSTITUTE
SPECIFICATION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.21(a)(3)**

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is filed to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.821(d). Additionally, an abstract is included. It is believed that no new matter is added.

Changes to the specification begin on page 2.

The abstract begins on page 11.

Changes to drawings begin on page 12.

The remarks begin on page 13.